GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3837
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2015
Quality of Fertilizers
Dubey Shri Satish Chandra

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no mandatory requirement or mechanism for checking the quality of fertilizers at the factory or manufacturers' level till these reach the farmers for use;

(b) whether the superior quality of fertilizers is absolutely essential to maintain the fertility of soil for sustained growth of agricultural production;

(c) whether the Government has received various complaints from farmers regarding the improper mixing in DAP fertilizers;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that good quality fertilizers are provided to the farmers; and

(e) the measures taken to make testing of fertilizers mandatory at every possible level right from the factory level till these reach the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERILIZERS

(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a): No Madam, Under the Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO), 1985, the State Governments are empowered to appoint fertilizer inspectors for checking the quality of the fertilizers. The fertilizer inspectors are empowered to enter upon and search any premises where any fertilizer is manufactured/imported or stored or exhibited for sale and draw samples of any fertilizer as per the procedure prescribed in the said Order for testing its quality. The inspectors periodically draw samples from the manufacturing units, wholesale dealers and retail dealers etc.

(b): The specifications of all the fertilizers are prescribed under the FCO after evaluation of their agronomic efficacy. It is required for the manufacturers, dealers etc to sell only those fertilizers, which are as per the standards prescribed in the FCO. Apart from the application of quality fertilizers, the balanced application of primary (NPK) nutrients along with secondary and micro-nutrients is required to maintain the fertility of soil for sustainable agriculture.

(c): No such case has been reported by any State Government.

(d): As per clause 19 of the FCO, no person shall manufacture/import any fertiliser for sale, which is not included in the FCO or not of standards prescribed in the FCO. The samples of fertilisers drawn by the inspectors are analysed in the notified laboratories. At present, there are 78 notified Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratories (FQCLs) in the country. In case the test results of some of the samples are found not in conformity with the quality parameters laid down in the order. State Governments are empowered to take necessary administrative and punitive/legal action against the offenders.

(e): Depending upon the analyzing capacity of the Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratories in their States, the State Governments fix the target of drawal of samples from manufacturing units and dealers network. Details regarding State-wise number of samples analyzed during the year 2014-15 are annexed.

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